

National Reporting System

Program Year 2012-13 Cohort Discussion



National Reporting System

<http://www.nrsweb.org/foundations/NRSChanges.aspx>



National Reporting System

Preparing for 2012

Changes to Follow-up Outcomes: Automatic Cohort Designation

- **Program Year (PY) 2012-2013:**

Participants identified for follow-up based on demographic variables in the MIS (State-level)



Secondary Credential Cohort

■ **Obtain Secondary Credential Cohort**

- Learners who take all GED tests, or are enrolled in adult high school at the ASE levels.
- GED tests may be taken any time (before or after exit), but all 5 tests must be taken by the end of reporting period (December 31)



Postsecondary Cohort

■ Postsecondary Cohort

- All learners who have earned a secondary credential while enrolled, hold a secondary credential at entry, or are enrolled in a class specifically designed for transitioning to community college, who exit during the program year



Employment Cohorts

- **Entered Employment Cohort**

- Learners who are not employed at time of entry and in the labor force who exit during the program year

- **Retained Employment Cohort**

- Learners who were not employed at time of entry and in the labor force, who are employed by the first quarter after exit quarter; and learners employed at entry who exit during the program year



Follow-up Outcome Timing (1)

- **Entered Employment**

- No change; exited during PY and entered employment in the first quarter after exit

- **Retain Employment**

- No change; exited during PY and are employed in the third quarter after program exit



Question: Definition of Unemployed in Labor Force

Q: How is “unemployed, not in the labor force defined?” Does it include unemployed who have not looked for employment within the past four weeks?

- NRS definition: Learners who are not employed but are seeking employment, make specific efforts to find a job and are available for work
- NRS definition has not changed
- Includes unemployed who have not looked for work in the last four weeks



Implications of “Automatic Cohort Designation”

- Students belong to a group to be followed for NRS post-program outcomes based on pre-defined characteristics
- Following students for post program outcomes will **no longer be goal dependent**
- Requires data system changes to identify cohort membership and local staff must be trained on cohort requirements



Do Student Goals Still Matter?

- **YES!!**
- Local staff should continue to set goals with students
- Goal setting is an essential component of good program and instruction but....
- Students goals will no longer be used as a way to identify students for the NRS follow-up measures

